







FRESNO CITY'S  
INTERESTSAn Able Review by  
L. Gundelfinger.

## Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting.

Favor an Electric Road and  
Believe it a Good Investment.

The Fresno Chamber of Commerce met last evening with a good attendance of members. The secretary, treasurer and president of the organization filed their reports for the past year. Officers were elected to serve during the ensuing year as follows: John Kolchman, president; John C. Nourse, vice president; T. C. White, treasurer. These gentlemen, together with the following, constitute the board of directors: James Madison, R. B. Butler, J. S. Hornum and U. S. Pierce.

The following comprehensive review of the work of the Chamber of Commerce during the past year, including observations upon the progress and needs of the city of Fresno, was delivered by the retiring president, Louis Gundelfinger:

Gentlemen of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce:—In order not to deviate from the laudable custom of my predecessors in office, I take great pleasure in presenting to you tonight a review of the work of this organization during the past year.

Speaking first of the general condition of business in our midst during 1897, it may be safely asserted that a most decided improvement has taken place over the previously gloomy condition of depression and the community is generally confident of still brighter times in the new year.

In this connection I will call attention to one of the serious drawbacks towards a better condition of affairs, that is, the so-called "Sain Question," meaning thereby the pending controversy between the marketing of these products, and if this could be successfully overcome by a thorough organization among the growers, our community would receive an impetus to its program beyond present expectations.

Slowly but surely a series of new and needed enterprises have been developed. Among the latest should be mentioned the establishment of an ice and cold storage plant on a very large scale, the success of which is assured beforehand, as its product is an important item in the expenditures of this and neighboring counties, all of which it is intended to supply, and which will thereby develop the marketing of these products, and all similar undertakings should ever receive the greatest possible encouragement from this organization and its members, because weekly payrolls of manufacturing establishments are a valuable factor in the business life of any community.

Two of the crying necessities of Fresno are: First, a large building or hall for assembly and exhibition purposes, which is hoped will be accomplished during the coming year, as the existence of such a place would still further center the attention of the entire valley to Fresno whenever a display of any kind is attempted.

And the second is a system of electric street cars; it is surprising that this has not been undertaken long ago, especially in connection with the establishment of electric power generated near by. Many smaller and less important towns on the coast possess such a system, and Fresno with its liberal population and extensive surrounding colonies, could support such an enterprise; it is well in this period of abundance of idle money, to acquaint capitalists here and elsewhere with this promising opportunity.

While attention is being directed to the construction for the good of the community, it is ever perceptible, and no opportunity is permitted to pass without receiving our earnest attention, yet I am certain still more could be accomplished if our members at large would take a little more interest and attend our meetings. Surely one hour a month, not making any man a devotee to matters of public concern, but taken as a whole, our monthly meetings, with one or perhaps two exceptions, have been discouragingly small, and as it cannot be expected to load all the burdens on the same shoulders all the time, the opportunity for doing so is thereby limited.

I earnestly appeal to any and all of our members to at least encourage by their appearance at our monthly meetings, those who are ever foremost in carrying out the objects of the Chamber.

Have considered it desirable to add to our annual records a statement of the principal shipments of our products from the city of Fresno alone, and here with append a memorandum of the same which cannot but prove otherwise than interesting to the people and the mercantile portion thereof in particular.

I am indebted to the friendly spirit of the local agents of the Southern Pacific Company as well as the Southern Railway Company for figures kindly furnished as far as they are in their power to do so.

The Southern Pacific Company has not compiled its statistics for the past year as it usually requires from three to four months after completion of the year's business before they can get their figures in shape.

ever represents the number of cars of commodities named shipped from Fresno to Eastern points:

Raisins and dried fruit.....1561  
Canned goods.....59  
Wine and brandy.....36  
Fruit, green.....61  
Honey.....1722

In addition to the above there were more or less raisins and fruit, both in the green and dried state, shipped to various points locally. The wine and brandy shipments East represent but a small portion of our annual vintage as most of the wine made in this vicinity is shipped to local points on the Southern Pacific system to be blended with other wines before being sent East.

The shipments by the San Francisco

and San Joaquin Valley Railway Company from here were as follows:

232 cars of wine, 22 cars of dried fruit, 12 cars of wool, 78 cars of live stock, 1 car of coal, 78 cars of other goods.

From the best information I could obtain the local shipments of grain from Fresno county by both roads aggregated 40,000 tons.

MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCES.  
A reference to the itemized report of the secretary given the following details of our membership, to-wit:  
Membership on January 1, 1897, 101; new members added during the year, 27; total, 128; resignations, 13; dropped from the roll for non-payment of dues, 10; loss by death, 2; total, 25; membership at this date, 103.

The finances of the Chamber are in a very satisfactory state, and without entering into details, all the dues, beg to give a short synopsis of the same:  
Balance on hand January 13, 1897, \$235 85  
Received from dues and all other resources.....1515 73  
Disbursements during the year.....1212 92

Leaving a balance on hand at this date.....\$522 66

While no great special outlays have been incurred during the year, it is well to be prepared for any emergency, and a well filled treasury offers many opportunities to do good; our fruit exhibit, for example, in regard to the proposed annexation of portions of Fresno to Kings county and were acted upon, requesting our representative in the senate for a diagram of the district affected and asking him to watch over this matter, at the same time pledging the warmest support and assistance of the Chamber in this and all other matters relating to the welfare of Fresno county.

IMPROVEMENTS.  
A committee was appointed consisting of J. C. Nourse, A. Guntensbach and W. D. Noble, to collect and forward an exhibit of Fresno county fruits and vines for the International Horticultural Exposition to be held in Hamburg, Germany, the same to be sent to Secretary Fisher of the State Board of Trade, for transmission to its destination; it is gratifying to find that the Chamber in connection with the general California exhibit, resulted in much good and the opening of a splendid new field.

Correspondence was carried on between the Chamber and our Congressmen, Mr. Howard, relating to an appropriation for the building of a new building in Fresno, and in due time it is hoped our efforts will result in favorable action.

A joint so-called "Raisin Committee" was actively engaged in watching the tariff legislation in congress as far as it affected our raisin and dried fruit interests.

A well attended special meeting was held, participated in by three members of the Board of Supervisors, relative to early action towards the building of better roads in Fresno. The matter was dependent upon certain legislation then in prospect, and a committee was subsequently appointed to take up the question and report to the Chamber at a later date. This matter of better roads will ever be a fruitful source of debate until the much hoped for good results are accomplished.

A protest was sent to our representatives in the senate and assembly in regard to the proposed bill for the regulation of warehouse charges, which was found to be detrimental to every interest concerned.

A communication was sent to President McKinley in Washington, in which the Chamber recommended the appointment of Captain W. L. Merry as Administrator of the United States and as is well known, this gentleman has been chosen for this important post.

The Chamber ordered for distribution among our farmers, fifty pounds of sugar beet seed with a view of making an experiment in different localities, and to ascertain whether this important and profitable crop could be raised in this section of Fresno county; it seems to me, however, that the matter did not receive proper attention from our farmers, as no reports have been received as yet to the result.

A SUCCESSFUL MISSION.  
At the earnest solicitation of the joint raisin committee, mentioned before, a liberal appropriation was obtained from the Board of Supervisors towards meeting the expenses of a special delegation consisting of Dr. Knoch and William Forsythe, to accompany a committee to Washington and appear before the ways and means committee in congress in order to secure the same duty on current as on raisins; the good result of their earnest labor is well known, and thus one of our leading industries has received a share of protection so much needed.

A great convention of Christian Endeavorers, held in July last, called for a special effort of our county to call the attention of the many thousands of expected visitors to our unrivaled resources; in conjunction with a committee from the local Endeavorers and the Board of Supervisors, a large and valuable account was issued which, as generally admitted, and which certainly fulfilled its mission.

A proposed dinner and similar exhibit to be held in the city of New York came up for discussion, and while this movement did not result favorably, owing mainly to the limited amount in which the proposition was presented, a valuable display, it is hoped that a good exhibit of our slightly products may be had in the near future in some one of the large Eastern centers; this manner of advertising our resources should not be lost sight of, as it is sure to bring both trade for the goods and new settlers.

The attention of the chamber was called to the neglected condition of Kearney avenue, one of our main drives, and after an interview with the Board of Supervisors on the subject this

was promptly remedied and it has ever since been in excellent order.

THE PUBLIC PARK.  
One of the most important matters ever brought before the chamber was the project of a public park for this city. Many discussions were had at our regular meetings in regard to the proper mode of procedure, until finally the aid of the press was invoked, by which aid it was expected to secure a desirable piece of land free of cost from some one of our land and wealthy land owners, who would share in the general benefit to as great an extent as the people themselves; it was not entertained for a moment that the tax-payers would vote a bond issue for the purpose of buying a piece of land, hence the only prospect of success was the undertaking was through a donation and, fortunately, such a man, or men, were found, and after many preliminary meetings and interviews with the givers, the new well known and liberal proposition of Mr. F. Readler, who proposes to donate about 230 acres, and Mr. August Walke, who will present forty acres more, were finally presented to the Board of City Trustees; in their hands, the matter is now making progress, and it is hoped will be brought to a successful solution.

If we consider the growth of our city, its future prospects and our warm enthusiasm, it must be apparent to every intelligent and well meaning citizen that such a move to our attractions must in time be of incalculable benefit, and considering the comparatively little addition to our burdens, it can hardly be imagined that any serious opposition to this plan should exist.

The land here adjacent to the city limits, and while the quality of the soil may not be the very best to be had, it is well adapted for park purposes, and with the aid of the great quantity of street sweepings which the city can have hauled to the spot, a comparatively fine place can be created within a few years.

It should not be overlooked that the more city tries to improve in proper directions, the more attractive it becomes to both our residents and to strangers seeking a home, and a public park is one of the best auxiliaries to attain that end.

AT SMALL COST.  
For the information of the general public, I will add here, that if this land should be accepted by the City Trustees the additional tax necessary to be levied for its improvement would be about 75 cents at \$1 at the utmost, for any one assessed at \$1000 worth of property, and I cannot believe that a majority of our citizens would oppose it from this standpoint, as it would be a small sacrifice, would, on the other hand, be enhanced in value.

A party of prominent citizens of West Virginia, who attended the launching of the gunboat "Weedling" in San Francisco, passed through Fresno on their return home and were greatly interested in the welfare of Fresno county, and the chamber and Hundred Thousand Club, and, as usual, the visitors were delighted with Fresno and its beautiful surroundings.

A petition to both houses of congress was circulated and received the approval of the chamber, requesting appropriate action for the construction of a wagon road through the Park reservation in this county; it would be an important piece of work and certain to benefit large and as yet undeveloped interests in the eastern part of our county.

During the year two members of the executive committee found it necessary to resign owing to change of residence to San Francisco, namely, Messrs. A. R. Briggs and D. J. Guggenheim, and while we regretted to lose their valuable services, the vacancies were ably filled by the selection of Messrs. J. C. Nourse and John Reichman.

A WORTHY SECRETARY.  
I cannot close my report without giving special recognition to the efficient services of our secretary, Major W. B. Dennett, who has been untiring in his efforts for the advancement of our interests, and it is especially due to his untiring zeal in obtaining new members that our numbers were not only kept up to the standard, but show a slight increase.

In now retiring from the office of president and also from the executive committee, where I have served since the organization of the chamber, I am particularly pleased to refer to the ever pleasant relations existing between our members and our executive committee, by whose assistance alone it was possible to accomplish what has been done. Our meetings have generally been attended by a full house, which shows the interest every one has taken to labor for the common good, and I am convinced that all of the raising, storing, selling, etc. of it, he took a bottle home, and to the surprise of all the bottle to get better from first dose, and half dozen dollar bottles cured her sound and well. Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds is guaranteed to do this good work. Try it. Free trial bottles at Webster Bros' drug store.

Free Pills.  
Send your address to U. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merits. These pills are easy in action and are particularly effective in the cure of Constipation and Sick Headache. For a Free Trial Bottle, send your name to U. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merits. These pills are easy in action and are particularly effective in the cure of Constipation and Sick Headache. For a Free Trial Bottle, send your name to U. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merits. These pills are easy in action and are particularly effective in the cure of Constipation and Sick Headache. For a Free Trial Bottle, send your name to U. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merits. 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[illegible]





we ask them to make an ap-  
pointment of \$10,000 they might say  
too much and give us nothing.  
don't mention any sum, they  
will appropriate \$20,000, and that  
is pretty good."

Smith stated he would make the  
arrangement suggested by the trustee, where-  
upon Craycroft and Clerk  
were instructed to sign the  
check as amended and forward it to  
the bank.

Meeting adjourned to next Satur-  
day evening, when the fire department  
will come up again.

---

## Syrup of Figs



ONE WHO ENJOYS  
this method and results when  
Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant  
to the taste, and acts  
promptly on the Kidneys,  
and Bowels, cleanses the sys-  
tem, dispeils colds, head-  
aches and fevers and cures habitual  
constipation. Syrup of Figs is the  
most effective of its kind ever pro-  
duced, pleasant to the taste and ac-  
cording to the stomach, prompt in  
action and truly beneficial in its  
results. Prepared only from the most  
pure and agreeable substances, its  
excellent qualities commend it  
to all who have made it the most  
valuable remedy known.

of Figs is for sale in 50  
bottles by all leading drug-  
Any reliable druggist who  
have it on hand will pro-  
promptly for any one who  
to try it. Do not accept any  
rate.

**CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.**  
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.  
CHICAGO, ILL.  
NEW YORK, N.Y.

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&  
**SON,**  
THE POPULAR PRICE

and Liquor House,  
 ALL SELL FOR FIVE  
 CENTS ONLY, BEGINNING  
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 OLD BREWSTER WHISKY  
 (a full quart)  
 per Bottle, Worth \$1.25.  
 THESE GOODS ARE ROT-  
 TED BY J. N. BREWSTER

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IN THE MARKET.**

**• MEDAL • COCKTAILS**

V—Martini | 90c/bottle,  
th—Manhattan | worth \$1.25

OLD Medal brand is considered  
delectable to be the choicest cock-  
tails come prepared in bottles.

ALL OUR GOODS GUARAN-  
TEED OR MONEY REFUNDED.

**RUBEN**

**& SON**

**5 AND 1117 I STREET,  
FRESNO, CAL.**

**Is for the Famous A B C  
Pilsener Beer.**

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Attention Ordering Work No. 141.

NOTED, THAT THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND CONVENIENCE require the work herein and the Board of Trustees of the city of Fresno, California, to have the following work done, according to the specifications adopted, or herein mentioned, or in its resolution of Intention No. 141.

Six-inch sewer to be constructed from a

[illegible]